

PATENT

5/4/01

**PRELIMINARY
AMENDMENT**

I hereby certify that this letter and the response attached hereto are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on

APR 27, 2000

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

Please cancel Claims 1-36 and add new Claims 37-52 as follows:

37. (New) A cutting device for performing cutting operations on a workpiece, said cutting device comprising:

a base adapted to receive said workpiece;